RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 16th March, 1990/25 Phalguna, 1911 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the Clock, Mr. **Chairman** in the Chair

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Development of counter-magnet cities in Rajasthan

*61. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified some cities including Kota in Rajasthan for development as counter-magnet cities to reduce the pressure on Delhi; and

(b) if so, what concrete steps have been taken for the development of these cities so far?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments concerned have been requested to prepare plans for the development of the cities based on the guidelines approved by the National Capital Region Planning Board.

SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, while welcoming the National Capital Plan, we will request the Minister not to shift the burden to the States concerned. We will request the Government to contribute their might in Railways, Telecommunication and service transport which are the direct responsibilities of the Union Government. What are they doing in this regard to develop the cities under the Capital Region Plan?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, we are not shifting the responsibility to the State Governments. In fact, it is a joint responsibility of the Centre and the States concerned. For example, during the current Plan, the NCRP Board have proposed an Investment Plan. Their Working Group has given a report. They have suggested an Investment Plan of 2900 crores of rupees for the Eighth Plan including the central investment. If you want, I can give the break-up also.

SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: I would like to know from the Minister if the Government is really serious about what they have proposed for 1991 and what they propose to do in all these three sectors which are their direct concern.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, we are really at it. For example, for the Eighth Investment Plan the Working Group has given a detailed plan. There will be an investment of 1750 crores of rupees in the central sector.

SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: I am not concerned about 5 years. I am concerned with 1990-91. I want to know what you have invested, what you plan to invest and what you will will do. Give a clear commitment to the House.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: That is what I am saying. You know that the Eighth Five Year Plan is on the envil. As and when they release the document, you will be knowing the amount involved.

SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: 1990-91 is a part of the follow-up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 1990-91 is yet to come.

SHRI BHUVNESH CbHATURVEDI: That is why I am su--

mitting that the Five-Year Plan will not be completed because they have the basic policy of plan holiday. What is their proposal for 1990-91?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: To the best of my knowledge there is no plan holiday. The plan is on the envil. As and when the plan provisions are made, we will be knowing it. We have been making every effort. We have given our suggestions. We have given our commitment to the Planning Commission.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The city of Gwalior was included in the Central Region Plan and some Central Government offices were to be shifted to Gwalior in order to reduce the congestion here in Delhi. I would like to know whether anything has been done in that direction.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, I can understand the nostalgia of Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji for Gwalior. I would agree with him that in the matter of transferring many of the headquarters and offices of the Central Government, not much progress has been made. I agree with him. We will make efforts to shift them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you planning to shift some offices to Gwalior?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, the plan is there, but it has not been implemented. It has not been a success so far. Sir, we have to try hard because nobody wants to go out of Delhi.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are going to use your persuasion?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Definitely.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are hopeful?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Yes.

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: I respect the consideration that the Minister has shown to Atalji's request. But let us go back to reality. The pattern is that some Central Government enterprises whose headqurters were located initially in techno-economic regions are now in Delhi. Take the case of Hindustan Steel. When Hindustan Steel was created, Ranchi was identified as the principal centre which will serve all the major public enterprises in almost a very effective manner. But its reincarnation, the Steel Authority of India, has returned to Delhi. Is there some plan that public enterprises, Central Government public enterprises, which are located in Delhi, particularly their headquarters, will be shifted back—for example, such ones which were originally outside like the Steel Authority of India in Ranchi—and the new ones which are here but do not have their own buildings they are in rented buildings and they should be asked to go, and the third category which is going to be created will be created on a specific condition that they will not be located in the National Capital Region? Sir, my real supplementary is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This was just by the way—introduction? (*Interruptions*)

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: The real supplementary is the National Capital Region has been a good project, a good idea. But perhaps it has not got off the ground either because adequate resource is not there, but more important, perhaps the political will among the participating Governments, whether the Centre or the States or both, has been missing. Is there some plan to encourage that there will be adequate

resources and the missing political will be available so that the city of Delhi and its environment is more habitable from the social point of view and rewarding from the point of view of sources of livelihood for people who are here?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I share the concern of the hon. Member regarding the first part of the question about shifting the headquarters to the wings of the nation or to other parts. Sir, We are doing our best and we will put the suggestion to the appropriate authorities, Ministries concerned. Regarding the second part, he said that it has not taken off the ground —the National Capital Region; yes, I agree with him. It is a very grand idea to intercept the migration to Delhi in places beyond Delhi. Then only we can get a manageable Delhi. That is the idea behind this plan. But he asked whether it is not due to lack of political will or lack of finance. I would say that it is due to both. Sir, I think both are inseparable, If we have the political will, financial resources somehow or other we will find. For example, in the Seventh Plan the Board wanted to Rs. 867 crores but they were given only Rs. 60 crores—a pittance. This time they have also made a suggestion for Rs. 2,900 crores. Sir, we will do our best to make it a success.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Sir, if Delhi is not to become like Calcutta, a sprawling city with only people and no facilities, no resources, one of the things for the National Capital Region that the hon. Minister might be considering is rapid transportation. One of the reasons that the people do not shift from Delhi to satellite towns, either to Gwalior or Jaipur or nearby towns, is because there is no adequate facility....

AN HON. MEMBER: Meerut.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Or Meerut. Would the Minister kindly consider first conceiving and trying to have a very rapid transportation system either by electric trains or by rapid trains? Now new technologies have come so that you can have actually people going and living in far away places and working every day in Delhi. They do not have to fly because it takes only half-an-hour to go by rapid train and come back in the evening. I would like to know whether this is part of his plan, whether he has thought about it, whether the Ministry has made any such plan to get the capital region off the ground and to save Delhi from becoming another Calcu

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I fully agree with the honourable Member. The major problem regarding NCR is transport and power. Unless we provide transport and power we cannot improve the region because the National Capital Region is much bigger in physical size than the States of Goa, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. It has a huge geographic area. It can not be served without rapid transport. Regarding rapid transport system or rail sysetem, a feasibility report is being prepared by the RITES and as and when it is given to us we will consider it in consultation with the Railways.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Arising out of the answer of the Minister, only Meerut, Ranchi and Gwalior are taken. Will he consider taking some of the Central Government offices to down south, say, Madras, Bangalore or Hyderabad? That is (a)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want the capital to be taken to all sides of the country?

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Because, Delhi is becoming Calcutta as Mr. Vishwa Bandhu Gupta says. We have to save Delhi and in order to save Delhi we can shift some of the burden to down south instead of keeping it only in the north. Then, part (b): Earlier there was a suggestion to have one session of Parliament in the south, in Bangalore, also. Will the Minister consider this proposal ?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I will answer the (b) part first. If you shift Parliament to Bangalore, then Bangalore will become another Calcutta or Delhi. As regards the first part of his question, he wanted to change some of the headquarters to the southern States. I want to remind the honourable Member, when Mr. C. Subramanian was the Food Minister here, he created the Food Corporation and made Madras its headquarters. But later it came over here. So we cannot do anything about it. We have to make a move in the sense that we have to strive at least in future and to relieve the congestion of Delhi, a kind of dispersal is a must.

गुजरात में नैफेड द्वारा प्याज की खरीद

*62. श्री रऊफ वलीउल्लाह : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को गुजरात में प्याज के मूल्य में तेजी से गिरावट आने के कारण नैफेड द्वारा बाजार में हस्तक्षप किए जाने के संबंध में किसानों से कोई अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं ;

(ख) क्या नैफेड को किसानों से प्याज के लिए कहा गया था ; यदि हां, तो उसका प्रति क्विंटल मूल्य क्या है और क्या गुजरात तथा महाराष्ट्र को राज्य सरकारों द्वारा कोई राज सहायता प्रदान की गई है ; यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) गुजरात में अब तक नैफेड द्वारा कितनी मात्रा में प्याज की खरीद की गई है और क्या खरीद का कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है ?

उप-प्रधान मंत्री और कृषि मंत्री (श्री देवीलाल) : (क) यद्यपि गुजरात में प्याज की खरीद के लिए मंडी में हस्तक्षेप करने की योजना के बारे में गुजरात के किसानों से कोई अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त नहीं हुए हैं, तथापि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने गुजरात में प्याज के मूल्यों के गिरने का पूर्वानुमान लगाते हुए दिनांक 17-1-90 को गुजरात सरकार से मण्डी में हस्तक्षेप करने की योजना के अंतर्गत एक प्रस्ताव भेजने का अनुरोध किया है ।

(ख) और (ग) गुजरात सरकार के साथ अंतिम रूप से तय की गई मंडी में हस्तक्षेप करने की योजना के अन्तर्गत भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कृषि सहकारी विपणन संघ लि. (नैफेड) को सलाह दी गई है कि वे राज्य की नामजद एजेंसियों के साथ मिलकर अच्छी औसत क्वालिटी का प्याज 70/- रुपए प्रति क्विंटल के मंडी में हस्तक्षेप करने के मूल्य पर खरीदें । प्याज की वर्तमान फ़सल के लिए 15 मार्च 1990 से प्याज की खरीद आरम्भ की जाएगी, जो इस राज्य की मुख्य फसल है । यह योजना 15 मई, 1990 तक चलेगी । यदि इस कार्य में कोई हानि होगी तो उसका वहन केन्द्रीय और राज्य सरकार 50 : 50 के आधार पर करेगी । नैफेड और राज्य की नामजद ऐजेंसियां 20,000 मीटरी टन की लम्बित मात्रा की खरीद करेगी । इसके अतिरिक्त नैफेड ने 19 फरवरी, 1990 से गुजरात में 326 मीटरी टन प्याज वाणिज्यिक आधार पर भी खरीदा है ।

चेयरमैन साहब, गुजरात के किसानों की तरफ से कोई दरख्वास्त नहीं आयी है इन्टरवेंशन की लेकिन इस के बावजूद इन सरकारों ने अपनी तरफ से और नैफेड की तरफ से गुजरात में प्याज खरीदने का फैसला किया ।...